

B² 3. (Amended) The progressive 3-D mesh information coding method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step (a) comprises the substeps of:

- (a1) extracting one or more mesh object layers from a 3-D mesh; and
- (a2) dividing the one or more mesh object layers each into the plurality of mesh components.

B³ 6. The progressive 3-D mesh information decoding method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the step (a) comprises the substeps of:

- (a1) classifying the transmitted bit stream into one or more decoded mesh object layers; and
- (a2) dividing each of the one or more decoded mesh object layers into a plurality of mesh components.

B⁴ 9. (Amended) A progressive 3-D mesh information coding/decoding method comprising the steps of:

- 8+9
- (a) extracting one or more independent mesh object layers from a 3-D mesh;
 - (b) independently coding and transmitting the one or more mesh object layers;
 - (c) obtaining one or more independent mesh object layers by decoding one or more of the independently coded and transmitted mesh object layers; and
 - (d) reconstructing the original 3-D mesh by collecting the independent mesh object layers and removing redundant information.

B⁵ 13. The progressive 3-D mesh information coding apparatus as claimed in claim 12, wherein the 3-D data analyzer comprises:

- a 3-D mesh object layer analyzer for dividing the input 3-D mesh into one or more mesh object layers; and
- a plurality of mesh component analyzers for again dividing each of one or more mesh object layers into a plurality of mesh components.

B⁶ 17. A progressive 3-D mesh information coding/decoding apparatus comprising: